

MINUTES  
San Bernardino County  
MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING  
August 7, 2008  
12:00-2:00 pm  
Behavioral Health Resource Center  
Conference Room F119-120  
850 E. Foothill Blvd.  
Rialto, CA 92376

**Commissioners present:**

Christopher Massa, Carol Grisotti, Veatrice Jews, Gabriel Gonzales, David Ford, Bill Swift, Jane Ann Godager, Tanya Perry, Susan McGee-Stehsel, May Farr and Michael Hill.

**Excused absence:**

Jane Mercer, Tom Rivera

**Guests:**

Allan Rawland, Director; Debi Pasco, Clerk of the Mental Health Commission; Christine Edgecombe, Family Service Agency; Beverly Scott, ARCH Morongo Basin; Faith Ikeda, Edward Deyon, Linda Ballard, Renee Compton, Pathways to Recovery; John Pi, Vista Guidance Center; René Keres, South Coast Children's Society; Linda Hart, IBHS; Doris Turner, Dot Walsh, Maribel Gutierrez; Rebecca Gehlke-Baez, Cynthia White, Laretta Ross, Arelis John Martinez, Michael Oliver, Ron Smith, Andy Gruchy, Maria Coronado, Susanne Kulesa, Evelyn Solorio, Doug Fazekas, Sarah Rios, Michelle Dusick, Teri Self, Gary Atkins, Bob Sudol, André Bossieux, CaSonya Thomas, Rosa Gomez, Lisa McGinnis, Richard Hernandez, Chris Lange, Lynn Neuenswander, Ralph Ortiz, David Denkers, Dot Walsh, DBH.

**CALL TO ORDER, INTRODUCTIONS AND MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING**

Chairperson Ford called the meeting to order at 12:07 p.m. He welcomed Michael Hill as a new member of the Commission representing the Second District and congratulated May Farr for her reappointment to the Commission. Self introductions followed. The agenda for this meeting was approved. The minutes of July 3, 2008 were adopted as written.

**CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

Chairperson Ford encouraged all to attend the Community Services and Support Public Hearing on August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at BHRC Auditorium from 6:00-8:00 pm.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Director Rawland acknowledged CaSonya Thomas, Chief Compliance Officer for providing the interactive group ethics training to the members of the Commission today. He congratulated May Farr on her reappointment to the Second District and Michael Hill who was appointed to Second District. Dr. Tom Rivera, who was unable to join us due to a prior commitment, was appointed to the Third District.

## **FY 08-09 State and County Budget**

It is very quiet at the State, with no budget yet; we hope they reach a decision soon. Cash flow has been affected; however, as a large county we are able to absorb the cuts for awhile. The INFO Program, which won the National Association of Counties award this year, may be cut. We are hoping to integrate into an MHSA funded program. There is still no relief for Alcohol and Drug Programs, but Prop 5 may add additional funding.

## **MHSA**

MHSA keeps rolling along. Today you have received the final copy of the Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) Plan that was submitted to the State on 7/15/08. The Workforce Education and Training Plan was submitted on July 30, 2008 and you will receive the final copy at the September meeting. Director Rawland contacted Richard Bray, a resident of San Bernardino County, to congratulate him on his new appointment to the MHSA Oversight and Accountability Committee, as well as offer our support. Capital, the bricks and mortar of MHSA, is moving forward with Dennis Terrones, Program Specialist on board to work closely with Lisa as our project coordinator. MHSA Technology planning will be finalized by Michael Day and Keith Harris. The total amount of approved funds for San Bernardino County since 2005 is \$164,607,168. We have captured every cent with no funds under reversion. If counties do not use the monies provided by a certain date, it will be reverted back to the State to be distributed among other counties, and we will have our hand up! MHSA is a life commitment with planning through 2016. The Integrated Plan is to be submitted in 2010 and the Transformation Plan in 2013. MHSA is the most effective planning I've ever been involved.

## **District Advisory Committees (DACs)**

The District Advisory Committees are beginning to take shape. Gary has met with District 1 and soon with District 3. Rosa has met with Program Managers of District 2, 4, 5 to organize and will work with MHSA for outreach to the community. Each district will have their own community forum meeting.

## **Allan's Work Performance Evaluation**

The Board of Supervisors are evaluating Director Rawland's work performance and the members of the Mental Health Commission may get called upon for feedback

## **COMMUNITY INPUT**

Beverly Scott asked how DBH is handling the pharmacy Medi-Cal situation. Director Rawland stated that Dr. Jatin Dalal, Medical Director is doing everything in his power to minimize the problem.

Linda Hart voiced her concerns that not enough community involvement was sought in the WET Plan. Is there any window of opportunity to make changes? CaSonya Thomas, Chief Deputy Director, stated that we can make action strategies for adjustment during implementation and invited Ms. Hart to participate in the monthly WET meetings. Director Rawland will bring back our implementation plan for resolution and we should aggressively seek stakeholder participation.

## **SPECIAL PRESENTATION: COMMUNITY CRISIS RESPONSE TEAM**

Andy Gruchy, Program Manager II, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Community Crisis Response Team (CCRT). Morongo Basin has no psychiatric hospital; therefore CCRT has collaborated with and are supported by the San Bernardino County (SBC) Sheriff Department in that area as a single point of contact. SBC Sheriff Deputies are provided a 32 hour Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) after graduation from the Academy. CCRT will be implemented in the East and West Valley of SBC in the Fall of 2008.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

1. CSS Annual Progress Report was presented to the Mental Health Commission for review.
2. Review and approve Award Nomination Form – Additions to the form included:
  - Distribute in September
  - Submission date of nomination forms by October 15<sup>th</sup>There was a motion to approve the form with changes; seconded; all approved.
3. Add to September 4<sup>th</sup> agenda: Nominate and elect Vice-Chairperson

## **OUTSIDE AGENCY REPORTS**

No comments at this time.

## **COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

**District 1:** Commissioner Swift is looking forward to participating in the DAC with Gary Atkins and, fellow Commissioners of the First District and community stakeholders. He will visit remote Program sites in District 1. He would also like to relinquish his participation at the CALMHB/C meetings and would like to agendize for action at the meeting of September 4<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioners Ford and Swift had their initial meeting with Gary Atkins in the high desert to discuss First District DAC.

**District 2:** Commissioner Farr is very happy to be back on the Commission. She mentioned that the October 16-18, 2008 quarterly meeting has been moved from Sacramento to another venue. She will keep the members posted.

Debi Pasco stated that she has not received information of the CALMHB/C location change. She will have to submit travel arrangements by the end of August for timely approval by the Board of Supervisors.

Newly appointed Commissioner Hill participated in a Mental Health Commission orientation with Director Rawland along with Tom Rivera from District 3.

**District 3:** Commissioner Massa stated that pictures of some members of Team House and Pathways to Recovery will be included in the new DBH Resource Directory to be published soon.

Commissioner Perry stated that the Big Bear Mental Health Alliance recently spoke with Gary Atkins, Lisa McGinnis and Teri Self regarding the proposal to increase services in the mountain communities.

**District 4:** No report at this time.

**District 5:** Commissioner Jews is very active with the African American Coalition and attended the WET Public Hearing.

Commissioner McGee-Stehsel attended the WET Public Forum. She has been in contact with Maria Coronado at Tent City, where Ms. Coronado did a wonderful job of teaching. She also thanked André Bossieux for inviting her to participate in with the TAY.

Commissioner Godager attended the WET Public Hearing. She is also very active in the Sacramento Senior Legislature writing proposals for bills to support seniors. She stated that all counties did not include older adult population in their PEI Plan as did SBC.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Being no further items to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 2:18 p.m.

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*David Ford*  
Chairman

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*Debi Pasco*  
Clerk of the Commission